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Return date set

FORT MCMURRAY

Wildfire evacuees given reason to hope



**Tim
Querengesser**
Metro | Edmonton

If the "beast" of a wildfire that has repeatedly defied expectations finally bids Fort McMurray adieu, the government will allow residents to begin returning starting June 1.

But in her announcement of the "conditional" plan Wednesday, Premier Rachel Notley repeatedly underlined the proposed return date is a target and not a promise. "Remember, many hazards remain," Notley said. "We need to address all of them before it is safe for residents to begin to return, and we are doing this."

The plan, which many of the

more than 90,000 people forced to flee have been increasingly hoping for, will be carried out in stages, Notley explained.

What must be clear first, she said, is the absence of threat from wildfires and even smoke, as well as the resumption of basic utilities and services.

Notley added that certain elements will remain compromised, including a boil-water advisory.

She warned evacuees that the community will only be able to provide basic services. People returning should bring with them what they need, she said, including medications and groceries.

Notley said the city will not be suitable for everyone including people with breathing problems, late-term pregnant women and those undergoing cancer treatment.

Those who do not wish to return immediately will still be supported by province, Notley said.

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SCHOOLS

Chair up in arms over trip to Hawaii



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

The chair of the Edmonton Public School Board says a trustee-funded organization needs to open its books, after he learned a board member went to Hawaii for a professional development conference.

Michael Janz is calling for greater transparency from the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan (ASEBP), which has a board of directors with five members appointed by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) and five by the Alberta Teachers' Association. "We don't even know what we don't even know," Janz said. "You can see any school board's expenses, you can see the minister of education's expenses, but I can't find the expense disclosure from the ASEBP."

The public-school board learned of expenses when ASEBP made a presentation in late April about "significant out-of-province travel," including the Hawaii trip.

Janz sent a letter April 25 requesting more information but has not heard back.

ASEBP chair Karen Hollo-way said her board has not met since receiving the letter, but Janz's request will be discussed at its next meeting on Thursday.

A day in the volunteer army

FORT MCMURRAY

Metro finds a warehouse of stories helping at relief centre



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

When I walk into the cavernous warehouse off 99th Street, I'm the only person without a purpose. People drop off boxes or sort through piles of clothing, while more whizz by on forklifts.

Since the first wave of Fort

McMurray evacuees arrived in early May, the Edmonton Emergency Relief Services Society has provided necessities for almost 50,000 of them.

Making that happen is a small army of volunteers — which I've joined briefly to see what it takes to keep thousands in socks, toothbrushes and blankets.

Immediately, I'm directed to a small office where I sign a waiver, tick boxes vouching for my ability to lift 30 pounds and don a reflective vest.

After a safety talk and orientation, I'm pointed in the direction of the nearest sorting table.

Supervisor Jay Gold strides by and steers me to a heap of boxes.

"My linen department is atrocious," he says, pointing.

I'm instructed to sort towels, pillows and blankets into different boxes, then stack them. Once the pallet is full, it's taped by the pallet wrapper they've named Dr. Dre.

I'm amazed by the generosity of donors. Some donations are bulk — how else to explain 80 pairs of identical socks? — while others are carefully curated.

About 80 of us are hard at work, including John MacDougall — who's both volunteer and evacuee.

"For me, I just thought, 'I'm sitting around in Edmonton anyway and I saw a lot of people from this community going out

“They’ve got Diaper Alley here. And there’s Clothing Island.”

Jay Gold

to help, so I better do my part, too," he says.

Gold returns to check in and tells me the linen department now looks "a little more organized."

Then he gives me a tour of the warehouse's geography.

"They've got Diaper Alley here," he says, gesturing to pallet upon pallet of disposables.

"And there's Clothing Island, so all the new clothes go there and get split into boxes with the different sizes."

By trade, Gold is a finance manager in the automotive industry, but here he's a volunteer like everybody else. He signed up the first day the Society would let him and started out unwrapping bars of soap.

Gold estimates they've already handed out about \$10 million in goods, with another \$10-12 million ready to go, but stresses that none of it could have been possible without the hundreds who have showed up to help.

"Without these volunteers, we'd be nothing."



Supervisor Jay Gold instructs Metro's Alex Boyd as she assists at the Edmonton Emergency Relief Services Society on Wednesday. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

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City proudly painting rainbows — once again

LGBTQ+

Crosswalks get fresh coat as permanent home pondered

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton will add a fresh coat of colourful paint to six rainbow crosswalks it installed in Old Strathcona before this year's Pride Festival, and officials say the search continues for a permanent home for the idea.

The crosswalks were painted before last year's Pride and, after positive feedback, the city sought community suggestions for a permanent home for them.

Olga Messinis, engineering supervisor in the city's transportation operations branch, said the city is still weighing options for permanent locations but in the interim will refresh the current crosswalks.

"They were a pilot location last year and it was a successful pilot," she said. "We don't have a permanent location selected yet, so we have elected to repaint those again."

Emil Tiedmann, communications director for the Pride Festival, said the continued municipal support is appreciated.

"Last year, when the crosswalks first appeared, we were pleased to see the City of Edmonton show their pride of the local LGBTQ+

6

The number of crosswalks painted in rainbow colours before Pride 2014.

“We’re making sure whatever we do allow on a city road right of way doesn’t put pedestrians in danger.”

Olga Messinis

community, and to display their support so boldly,” he said.

The painted lines have faded since last year's festival and the city has been examining ways to ensure the paint stands up to Edmonton's winters, Messinis said.

But the Pride Festival isn't the only group hoping a little paint can liven up a street surface.

Messinis said many neighbourhoods and community leagues have contacted the city with hopes to brighten up their own streets.

"We have been approached, almost annually, by community groups looking to paint streets or paint crosswalks," she said.

Messinis said the city has studied the rainbow crosswalks since they went in to see how drivers and pedestrians interact.

She said that work will help them develop a set of guidelines looking at pavement quality and type of intersection to make sure new designs can be created with safety in mind.

"We're making sure whatever we do allow on a city road right of way doesn't put pedestrians in danger."



Olga Messinis, engineering supervisor in the city's transportation operations branch, has played a leading role in bringing the rainbow crosswalk idea to reality in Edmonton. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

MINIMUM WAGE

Business group critical of hike

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Minister of Labour Christina Gray says the province is still committed to increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2018, after an Alberta business group again called on the government to re-consider the hike.

On Wednesday, the government announced it's meeting stakeholders for the second time to discuss the minimum wage, after former Labour Minister Lori Sigurdson met with stakeholders last year.

Amber Ruddy, Alberta provincial affairs director with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, said the government should ease hiking the minimum wage because small businesses continue to struggle due to the lacklustre economy.

"We hope this time they take the economic analysis seriously," Ruddy said. "It is not a good idea."

But Gray said the government is sticking to raising the minimum wage to \$15 by 2018, a campaign pledge it made last year.

"It makes sense to this government that families should take care of themselves without having to go to the food bank," she said.

Ruddy said the government should press pause.

"There are better ways to help low-income earners," she said. "CFIB has long supported training opportunities to advance out of entry level positions and targeted tax relief."

The government's consultation topics include the size of future increases, meal and lodging deductions and the phase-out of the differential liquor server rate.

Gray didn't specify if the government's next minimum wage increase will be smaller than originally planned.

"The how-we-get-there is what we're hoping to have our stakeholders help us with through these consultations," she said.

“

There are better ways to help low-income earners.

Amber Ruddy

FINANCE

Province to standardize pay at arms-length groups

Alberta is bringing in new legislation to establish a pay grid for executives on its agencies, boards, and commissions — and to find out how much it is paying those same executives right now.

"Over the years, compensation practices between the public service and our province's agencies, boards, and commissions have diverged, often significantly," Finance Minister Joe Ceci said Wednesday.

"This framework will ensure that the spending of public dollars is in line with the broader

Alberta public sector and comparable jurisdictions."

Earlier Wednesday, the government tabled Bill 19, the Reform of Agencies, Boards and Commissions Compensation Act.

The bill is part of a broader government plan to bring stability, consistency, and transparency to the payment and operation of the 301 agencies, boards and commissions that serve the public in varying capacities.

Right now, the agencies set their own salaries, bonuses and

severances for executives and are not compelled by law to divulge to government details of the payout.

That has led to anecdotal reports of high six-figure salaries and severance pay to some agency executives.

Under Bill 19, cabinet would have the authority to compel those agencies to provide details of remuneration for executives, including

27

The number of agencies reporting to government with executives making more than \$200,000 per year.

bonus and severance pay.

The new pay grid will be worked out over the summer with the goal to have it in place by the fall. The new payouts won't be retroactive, but everyone will be under the new salaries within two years.

The government plans to bring in an outside agency that will recommend what fair compensation should be, based on the size and com-

plexity of the job.

The agencies will be encouraged to stick to paying executives a base wage and will have to get the OK from Ceci for bonus pay schemes.

The bill will apply initially to 27 agencies that report directly to government with executives making more than \$200,000 a year.

Other agencies, along with self-regulated organizations and the boards of governors of colleges and universities, will be brought in down the road.

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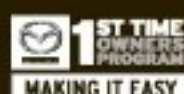
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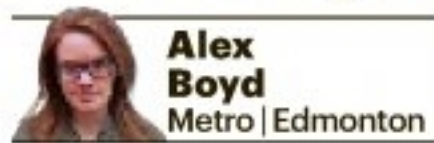
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CHARITY

Bursary to help students affected by fire



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

The University of Alberta has created a new Disaster Relief Bursary to help the estimated 500 current and prospective students affected by the Fort McMurray fire.

The new fund, currently taking donations, has raised more than \$12,000 in just four days.

"We're seeing students and

families who no longer have the financial resources they expected, and who have lost both job prospects and resources such as textbooks and computers," said vice-provost and university registrar Lisa Collins.

Imad Bazzi is one of the many students who lost his home in the fire.

He'd moved back to Fort McMurray for the summer and was two days into his summer co-op job when the fire hit.

As his parents told Metro last

week, the second-year civil engineering student wasn't able to make it home in time to grab anything — meaning his notes and laptop have been lost to flames.

"This disaster, I wouldn't want this to be a reason I don't go back to school," he said, in a statement published by the university online.

Collins said the university wants to make sure nobody's studies are disrupted because of the fire.

"Unfortunately in Alberta we've learned things about the impact of stress on the student body when we have these kinds of natural disaster," she said, pointing to the Calgary flood and the Slave Lake fire as examples.

The new fund is currently taking donations and soon students will be able to apply, she said.

The amount they receive will be based on how much is raised and their specific financial need.



The shipping container homes are designed to be stackable and can expand to a variety of configurations. SUPPLIED

Building a new kind of home

CHURCHILL SQUARE

Shipping container units coming to community



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

An Edmonton company is promising a new solution for those looking to create a suite in their backyard — and it can be in place within 10 weeks.

Honomobo designs and builds garage and garden suites using shipping containers and is actually planning to bring one of its units to Churchill Square on June 3.

Co-owner Daniel Engelman said for people considering a garage suite, shipping containers offer a way of getting something in place swiftly.

"It takes so much time and energy to design something from scratch that works for your site," he said. "It's a really daunting process and so what we are trying to do is take basically a shovel-ready project."

Engelman said their units can be on site, ready for occupancy within 10 weeks of an order.

They are constructed off-site at a factory just west of Edmonton.

He said the tiny homes are built to be energy efficient and can run off solar power.

He added the company believes consumers in the future won't be looking for sprawling spaces, but instead for more usable ones.

"We feel like going forward there is a generational shift, where people like quality of space, rather than quantity," he said.

Edmonton councillors approved changes last year that allow for garden and garage suites across the city, as part of its goal to see 25 per cent of all development be infill.

Engelman said the city's commitment made it easier to bring in the homes.

"It does make sense to have that density and Edmonton took that step," he said.

The units start at \$99,000 for a studio apartment and rise to about \$147,000 for a

two-bedroom unit.

Engelman said the units aren't cheap, but would rent for more than the additional mortgage payment in most instances.

The event in Churchill Square is an opportunity for people to see the units close up. Engelman said he wants people to understand what their options are.

"We want people to have the opportunity to walk through it, to see it, feel it, touch it."

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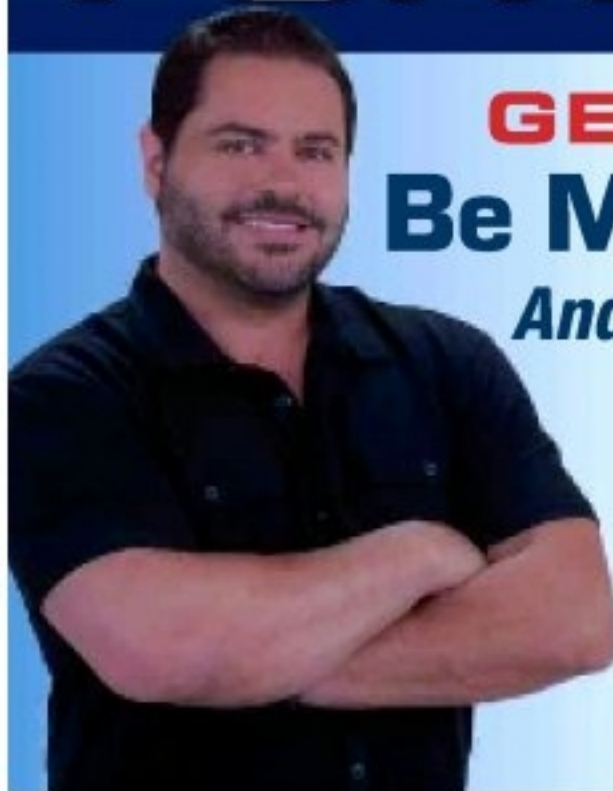
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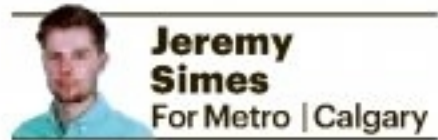
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ENVIRONMENT

Implement wildfire report's recommendations: Committee



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

All recommendations within the government's 2012 wildfire report must be implemented to prevent another Fort McMurray-level disaster from happening, according to one committee member who drafted the report.

The 2012 document, titled the Flat Top Complex, was drafted in response to the 2011 Slave Lake wildfire, which forced more than 7,000 to flee and cost \$700 million to fix.

The report outlined 21 recommendations to better protect Alberta's communities, and are estimated to cost \$700 million over the course of 10 to 20 years.

On Wednesday, Tom Burton — who sat on the committee that drafted the report — said future Fort McMurray-level disasters can be prevented once all the recommendations are completely implemented, after 10 per cent of the city was destroyed by ongoing wildfires on May 4.

"You can see what happened in Fort Mac," he said. "Those

are the dangers ... if we don't FireSmart our communities."

Since 2013, the government has funded \$100 million towards implementing the recommendations, though the NDP cut \$5.9 million from Flat Top Complex projects, according to its 2016-17 budget.

Agriculture and Forestry Minister Oneil Carlier said the implementation of recommendations are ongoing, and the government is committed to completing all of them in 20 years.

Wildrose Environment Critic



About 10 per cent of Fort McMurray was destroyed by raging wildfires.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Todd Loewen said he thinks some of the recommendations should have been done as soon as possible: "I think 10- to 20-year plan is taking too much time," Loewen said. "We've got to do something sooner than this."

Carlier didn't specify future funding amounts for Flat Top Complex recommendations, though it plans to conduct consultations after the wildfires clear to possibly tweak the program.

"Over 100 actions have been taken in implementation of the recommendations," he said.

Burton said Fort McMurray may have endured slightly less damage if the report was completely implemented sooner.

However, all stakeholders — municipalities, landowners and the government — must do their part to ensure communities are actually protected, he added.

"The province is definitely not to blame," he said. "It's a bigger scope — there are so many stakeholders that work together on this. Home owners, for example, can do little things to hopefully decrease damage."



Jared and Yvonne Epp with their mobile bicycle bookstore, Nomad Books. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Bicycle bookstore pedals for readers

LITERATURE

Mobile carrier hits the streets to spark literary conversations



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

An Edmonton couple is taking their love of literature on the road this summer, with the only bookstore in town on two wheels.

The brainchild of Jared and Yvonne Epp, Nomad Books is a bicycle trailer offering a small selection of used books to customers.

The couple moved back to Edmonton this past year after four years in Ottawa and said they sought a business that would

get them onto the street.

"We wanted to do something to add some more vibrancy to the streets, to meet people in our community, to create conversation," said Yvonne.

Jared, her husband, said he's always had a passion for books and was looking for a unique way to get into the industry.

"I've always had a dream to own my own bookshop," he said. "We just wanted to do something different, a bit of like a social experiment."

The pair have been out once this past weekend and aim to be out Friday evening and Saturday in Beaver Hills House Park on Jasper. Yvonne said in their one trip out so far they sold a few books, but also had a couple of great conversations with customers.

She said one homeless man even suggested how to best balance their cart.

"He gave us some pointers on

how to distribute the weight of the trailer and all that."

Jared said the selection of books focuses on titles that will not only be saleable, but will also spark a conversation.

"I want to have books that allow that to happen," he said.

The couple said they hope to have the business in Churchill Square and possibly 124 Street this summer, but they are limited in where they can take the store.

"We can't go up and down hills with the trailer. It's a bit heavy," said Yvonne.



We wanted to do something to add some vibrancy.

Yvonne Epp

HEALTH

Mobile lab tests firefighters' lungs



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

A new mobile lab is helping firefighters track their lung health when they return from Fort McMurray.

Nicola Cherry, an epidemiologist and University of Alberta researcher, brought the lab van to a fire station in Sherwood Park Wednesday.

"If the lungs get high enough levels of irritants, it can lead to chronic life-long breathing problems. The sort of smoke that these firefighters were exposed to would be at concentrations that could easily do long-term harm," Cherry said.

Doctors will test the firefighters' breathing and have them come back for a follow-up after three months.

Cherry hopes to gather information that can improve safety for future wildfires, such as whether long shifts have adverse health impacts, and whether certain types of masks were more effective.

Cherry tested dozens of firefighters Wednesday and hopes to take the lab to Fort McMurray when conditions change.

"When we go up to Fort McMurray, if we do indeed do that, this will be invaluable, because there won't be any facility for measuring people," she said.

Jason Biggeman, a Strathcona County firefighter who grew up



A firefighter undergoes the lung test after his return.

JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

in Fort McMurray and fought the wildfires from May 7-9, said lung health is a constant concern.

"Even though we are wearing our breathing apparatus and filter masks and things like that, we get all the smoke and the ash into our pores, and even just being around our gear we're breathing things in all the time," he said.



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PM apologizes after scuffle in the House of Commons

POLITICS

Trudeau is accused of 'manhandling'



Rebecca Williams
Metro | Toronto

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and NDP Leader Tom Mulcair got into a heated exchange in the House of Commons on Wednesday as MPs gathered to vote on the Liberal government's controversial assisted-dying bill.

Video shows Trudeau taking the arm of Opposition Whip Gordon Brown in the crowd of MPs before the argument erupts.

Mulcair is shown yelling in the direction of Trudeau as the prime minister walks towards the NDP leader.

MPs then get between the two in apparent effort to separate them.

Trudeau, who physically took Brown by the arm, later told the House that he was trying to help the Opposition Whip as MPs were blocking the whip from his seat.

NDP House Leader Peter Julian accused Trudeau of "manhandling" Brown and MP Ruth-ellen Brosseau told the House that she had been "elbowed in



Justin Trudeau and Tom Mulcair during the exchange in the House of Commons on Wednesday. SCREENGRAB

the chest" by the prime minister.

Trudeau got up to "apologize unreservedly" for the altercation.

Trudeau's apology was dismissed by the Opposition as a non-apology. NDP MP Niki Ashton suggested the shoving of Brosseau would qualify as as-



I apologize for that unreservedly and I look for opportunities to make amends. Justin Trudeau

sault outside the walls of Parliament. The Commons Speaker ruled that on its face, Trudeau's conduct was a breach of parliamentary privilege and referred it

to the Commons procedure and house affairs committee, which could recommend Trudeau be sanctioned in some way.

Afterwards, Conservative

and NDP House leaders stood together to denounce Trudeau's behaviour as disgraceful.

Former Speaker, Conservative MP Andrew Scheer said Trudeau "looked like he clearly lost his temper" when he charged down the aisle to move whip Brown along.

WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JOHN MCCALLUM

Minister's remarks 'insensitive'

Immigration Minister John McCallum says his suggestion there's a cultural element driving Syrian refugees to food banks was insensitive and he regrets it.

Food banks from Halifax to B.C. have reported serving hundreds of Syrians who have come to Canada since November, the month the Liberal government launched a major resettlement program to bring 25,000 people by the end of February and thousands more by the end of this year.

The question of why came up Wednesday at a Senate committee studying the refugee resettlement program and McCallum initially pinpointed two reasons: the fact refugees do not have high levels of income upon arrival and something else.

"There may be a cultural element," he said. "You have to remember the refugees are coming from an entirely different world."

"Our world is very different than their world. Sometimes they have been living in refugee camps; maybe it's the norm to be offered meals. I'm not overly concerned about this."

But later Wednesday McCallum met with reporters outside the House of Commons to take back those remarks.

"The remark I made about food banks I think was insensitive so I regret having made that comment," he said.

To date, about 27,000 Syrian refugees have arrived in Canada, spread among nearly 300 communities.

About 15,000 are government-assisted, meaning they receive a year of income support from the federal government linked to the size of the family and provincial social assistance rates.

For the 9,400 privately sponsored Syrians, their income is provided by private groups who are expected to provide the same level of support as social assistance rates as well, if not more.

The rest of the Syrians who have arrived have their costs shared between the federal government and private sponsors.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EQUALITY

Whoa, Nellie: McClung top choice for female banknote



Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Roughly one-in-four Canadians think Nellie McClung should be the first woman outside of the royal family to look back at them from a domestic banknote.

For obvious reasons, the chairperson of the Nellie McClung Foundation, Lila Goodspeed, would count herself among them; but she notes choosing McClung could also

loan itself to a lighthearted nickname for the bill.

"Coins have a name, so it could well be that (the new bill) does too," Goodspeed said. "You could do all kinds of things with a 'Nellie,' couldn't you? Something like: 'I'll bet a Nellie on that.'"

The Angus Reid Institute research group reached 1,517 Canadians through an online survey in May, and found 27 per cent would like to see McClung on their money.

Among female-only re-



Nellie McClung re-imagined on the Canadian \$100 bill.

ILLUSTRATION BY ANDRES PLANA/METRO

spondents, McClung was even more popular as 32 per cent — or one-in-three — named her as their top

choice.

Her granddaughter, Caitlin McClung, said that support is indicative of how Nellie's

legacy endures.

"It speaks to the universality of her values and the causes that she not just championed, but pioneered," she said.

A member of the 'Famous Five,' McClung won recognition of women's legal status as 'persons.'

During the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote in Manitoba — a movement McClung pioneered — her granddaughter says it makes sense she would be in the lead, in terms of public opinion.



Jenna Vecchio JOE LOFARO/METRO

OTTAWA

Woman's story sparks debate



Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Social media was abuzz Wednesday after an Ottawa woman who was told by gym staff that her breasts were too large for her tank top went public with

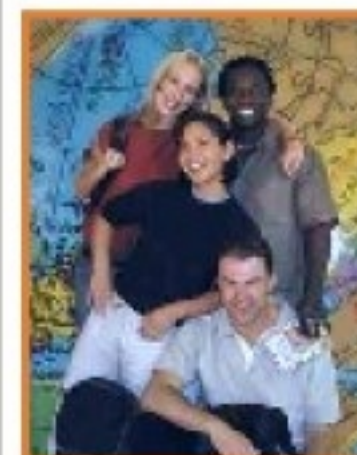
her story on Facebook.

As Metro first reported, Jenna Vecchio says a staff member at the Orleans Movati approached her last Saturday and said other members apparently reported they were offended by her attire.

Vecchio said she felt "humiliated" and singled out, as other

women in the gym at the time were also wearing tank tops.

"What a terrible thing to happen. What would happen if a stomach was too big for the shirt or their muscle too big and they have (a) sleeveless shirt ... Where would they stop," wrote Steven Boucher on Facebook.



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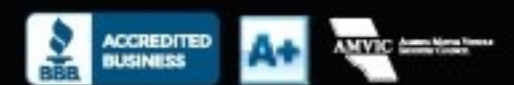
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SOUTH AMERICA

Two more quakes rattle Ecuador

Two powerful earthquakes jolted Ecuador on Wednesday, causing one death and injuring dozens.

Neither appeared to have caused serious damage but the government decided to cancel school nationwide as a precaution. In Guayaquil, office workers fled into the streets after the second quake.

Both tremors were centred along the Pacific coast near the epicenter of last month's magnitude-7.8 quake and rattled homes as far away as the capital, Quito.

Wednesday's initial shake was a magnitude-6.7 quake that struck before 3 a.m., and that

was followed by a 6.8 tremor around midday.

President Rafael Correa said one person died in Manabi province in confusing circumstances still being investigated. At least 85 were injured, two seriously.

"These sorts of aftershocks are normal but that doesn't mean they're not scary and can cause damage," Correa said in a televised address after the first quake. He added that aftershocks of this magnitude were normal for up to two months after a major quake like the one Ecuador experienced in April.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Earth feeling hot, hot, hot

A combination of global warming and an El Nino have helped the planet shatter monthly heat records as April broke the old record by half a degree, say U.S. federal scientists.

The National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) monthly climate calculation said Earth's average temperature in April was 13.7 C, or 1.1 C warmer than the 20th-century average, and well past the old record from 2010.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Chibok girl reunited with her mother

NIGERIA

19-year-old is first to be recovered since kidnappings

One of the teenagers kidnapped by Boko Haram extremists over two years ago from a boarding school in northeastern Nigeria has been found with a baby and was reunited with her mother, a doctor said Wednesday — the first of the Chibok girls to be recovered since the mass abduction.

The 19-year-old woman, de-



This image from video posted by Boko Haram purports to show the kidnapped Chibok schoolgirls. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

scribed by an uncle as traumatized by her experience, was found wandering with her baby on Tuesday on the fringes of the remote Sambisa Forest, which is located near Nigeria's border with Cameroon.

The news gave hope to the families of the 218 girls who are still missing and may provide information as to their whereabouts.

But the young woman told her mother that some of the Chibok

girls have died in captivity and the others still are being held, according to her family's doctor, Idriss Danladi, who spoke to The Associated Press after talking with the mother.

On April 14, 2014, Boko Haram stormed and firebombed the Government Girls Secondary School at Chibok and seized 276 girls preparing for science exams. Dozens managed to escape in the first hours, but 219 remained captive.

The woman is the first of those captives to be found since the kidnapping, which grabbed worldwide attention and put a spotlight on of Nigeria's Islamic extremists. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Two Sri Lankan landslide survivors stand on the mud holding their sandals in hand and look at the patch visible on a mountain after a landslide in Elangipitiya village in Aranayaka north east of Colombo, Sri Lanka, Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SRI LANKA LANDSLIDES

'I could not believe my eyes'

Soldiers and police used sticks and bare hands Wednesday to dig through enormous piles of mud covering houses in three villages hit by massive landslides in central Sri Lanka, with hundreds of families reported missing.

By evening, rescuers had pulled 17 bodies from the mud and debris unleashed by several days of heavy rain across the island nation. Officials said the extent of the tragedy was still unclear, but the Sri Lankan Red Cross said at least 220 families were unaccounted for.

"The task is to figure out what happened to them," the Red Cross said in a statement, noting that some people may have left after local officials warned earlier this week of possible landslides.

Heavy fog, rain, electrical outages and the loose ground were complicating efforts to search for survivors. As night fell, the rescue operation was suspended until dawn. Officials warned that, with rain still falling, more landslides could occur in the area.

Villagers said torrents of

muddy water, tree branches and debris came crashing down around their homes Tuesday in the three villages, located at different heights on the same hill in Kegalle District, about 72 kilometres (45 miles) north of Colombo.

"I heard a huge sound like a plane crashing into the Earth," said 52-year-old A.G. Kamala, who had just returned to her house in one of the villages, Siripura, when the landslides hit. "I opened my door. I could not believe my eyes, as I saw

something like a huge fireball rolling down the mountain."

Near the village of Elangipitiya — furthest down the hill — soldiers carried bodies to a school, where families waited for news of missing loved ones.

Farmer Hewapelage Lal said he had identified the body of his nephew, but that 18 other family members were possibly buried under the mud. He and his wife had left their home to take fruit to a daughter who lived elsewhere, but at some point his wife turned back.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A Sri Lankan landslide survivor carries her dog as she walks on the mud. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tax man loses out due to error

FINANCE

CRA mistake cost agency \$1.5 million in interest: Report

The taxman had to forgo as much as \$1.5 million in interest when the Canada Revenue Agency extended last year's tax filing deadline after mistakenly giving the wrong date.

Agency officials estimated that moving the income-tax returns deadline to May 5, from the usual April 30 midnight

deadline, meant \$1.43 million in lost interest from Canadians who filed their taxes late over those five days, according to documents released under the Access to Information Act.

The information comes more than a year after Torstar News Service first requested details about the error that likely resulted from repeating an old message, or possibly copying and pasting information from 2014, when a five-day extension was granted to taxpayers due to a hacking incident.

The \$1.43-million figure assumes all tax payments —

totalling \$2.09 billion — were late by five days, based on a five-per-cent interest rate, but the CRA said it has no way of knowing what the true financial impact was. By May 6, it had received 24.7 million individual tax returns, in line with projections.

The \$1.43-million estimate was provided to show "a worst-case scenario," CRA spokesman David Walters said in an email.

"It is not possible to determine the exact cost as we do not know when individuals would have filed and paid their taxes, if the extension had not been granted," Walters said.

Last April, the agency did not disclose cost implications, stating that "given the extended period is short, and most taxpayers filed by April 30, the costs resulting from the filing extension will be negligible."

Immediately after the deadline was extended, Torstar News Service filed two separate requests for information under the Access to Information Act. One asked for the financial implications of lost revenue, while the other asked how the mistake was made and discovered.

That request is still outstanding, though the released

documents hint at how the error was made.

Even though income taxes are due April 30 annually, the CRA has a long-standing practice of giving Canadians who file electronic returns a five-day grace period.

The grace period message is posted on the EFILE webpage annually and sent to approximately 45,000 tax preparers indicating that if they have transmission errors, late filing penalties will not be assessed as long as the tax return is submitted within five business days of April 30.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



ISTOCK



INNOVATION

Google unveils the future of technology

Google's stepping further into the virtual world.

It announced a new platform for virtual reality called Daydream, and said manufacturers including Samsung, HTC and Huawei would have smartphones capable of handling it this fall.

The platform, included in its upcoming Android N operating system, is meant to improve upon the experience of Cardboard, which Google launched two years ago, by making virtual-reality experiences that are more comfortable, higher quality and more immersive.

Google said it had created a reference design for a headset that a partner manufacturer would have ready for the fall, and designs for a new controller that has a few buttons, a touchpad, and sensors that track its orientation and where it's pointing.

In a demonstration for some 7,000 attendees at its Google I/O conference in Mountain View, California, the Internet search giant showed how the controller could be used to flip digital pancakes, throw things, cast a virtual fishing line and fly a digital dragon. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SEXUAL ASSAULT

CIBC chief reiterates policy on harassment

The CEO of CIBC sent a note to all employees Wednesday, reiterating the company's non-tolerance for workplace harassment after a former worker filed a wrongful dismissal lawsuit against the bank and a former executive director that alleges she was sexually assaulted and harassed.

Diane Vivares, a former associate in the bank's equity markets group, is seeking more than \$1 million in damages from CIBC World Markets and Kevin Carter, a former executive director at the bank.

In a lawsuit filed with the Ontario Superior Court in December, Vivares alleges Carter sexually assaulted her at a company Christmas party in 2007 by shoving his hand down her skirt twice.

Carter denies the allegations in his statement of defence.

Vivares claims the bank also failed to protect her from future instances of sexual harassment, instead allowing a "sexually poisoned and toxic work environment" to develop. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MARIJUANA

Vancouver issues first pot peddling licence

The City of Vancouver has issued its first business licence to a medical marijuana dispensary in its plan to manage the proliferation of illegal shops.

A city spokesman says the Wealth Shop Society, near the University of British Columbia, is the first to be regulated under rules established by the municipality nearly one

year ago.

The city says 30 illegal marijuana stores have complied with regulations and stopped selling pot since the end of April.

61 businesses continue to operate against the rules.

It says nearly 140 fines of \$250 each have been issued, while only seven have been paid.

The licence comes ahead of the federal government's promise to introduce legislation next spring legalizing marijuana.

A post on the Wealth Shop's Facebook page called getting its licence a huge day in Canadian history and says it's excited to be part of legalization.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

61 stores

The city says 61 illegal marijuana stores continue to operate in defiance of the law. Thirty stores have stopped selling pot since the end of April.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



CHANTAL HÉBERT ON MARYAM MONSEF



The minister in charge of fulfilling the promise of a new voting system has failed to offer any evidence that her government has an agenda other than having its own way with the electoral process.

In parliamentary politics, little is more self-defeating than a minister who consistently insults the intelligence of his or her critics. Sooner or later the approach inevitably backfires.

For a case in point one only need to look at the last Parliament.

Former GTA MP Paul Calandra rose to fame in the House of Commons as Stephen Harper's last parliamentary secretary at a time when the Senate scandal was in full swing. In that capacity, he would usually take questions from the opposition leaders when the prime minister was away.

Obfuscation was Calandra's specialty. He seemed to take pride in turning question period into a gong show. In no time his desk became the place where issues of substance came to die.

For those with short memories, here is the answer he offered in response to a Liberal query about the Senate in December 2013: "I ask the Liberal party to join with us in protecting the citizenship of Santa Claus, join with us in making sure the North Pole remains part of Canada. For all of those kids around the world who are depending on Santa Claus, I ask them to abandon their ideas and stick with us, and keep Santa Claus

Like Paul Calandra before her, Monsef is prone to explanations that defy logic. The difference is she does it with a smile.

Canadian."

This is just one of a tiresome number of examples. At one point a website devoted to Calandra quotes was created. There was never a

other than having its own way with the electoral process.

Pressed by the opposition parties, she has defaulted to bromides. Like Calandra, she



Democratic Institutions Minister Maryam Monsef in question period on Wednesday. Monsef's proposed electoral reform committee has been under fire from some who claim it's been designed for partisan advantage. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

shortage of new material to refresh it. By the time he lost his seat last October, he had become the poster boy for the Conservative government's disdain for the contribution of the opposition parties to the parliamentary debate.

There is not yet a match for Calandra on the Liberal side in the House of Commons but Democratic Institutions Minister Maryam Monsef is auditioning for the role.

For the better part of a week, the minister in charge of fulfilling Justin Trudeau's promise of a new voting system in time for the 2019 election has failed to offer any concrete evidence that her government has an agenda

is prone to explanations that defy logic. The difference is Monsef does it with a smile.

Her proposed electoral reform committee is to be dominated by the Liberals. It will report to a House where a Liberal majority calls the shot. On the notion that the government is stacking the decks in its partisan favour, most independent outsiders concur with the opposition. But Monsef maintains that the fate of the reform is in the hands of all MPs. It's clear the opposition is free to propose as long as it is the Liberals who dispose.

In response to Conservative calls for a referendum to be held prior to the introduction

of a different voting system the minister initially offered a tally of tweets on the issue of electoral reform. Had she read them Monsef might have found a groundswell of opposition to her chosen process.

Alternatively the minister argues that a plebiscite is not an effective option to sound out Canadians on the way forward because some voters would decline to participate. The underlying contention is that summer-long government-controlled parliamentary hearings and town halls are more inclusive. It is an unsustainable proposition.

By offering asinine answers to questions that resonate well beyond the opposition benches of the Commons Monsef has so far succeeded in burning bridges where she should have been building some. Even before it has gotten underway the Liberal electoral reform process is largely discredited.

It would be tempting to put this train wreck to the inexperience of a rookie minister but a government can count on the benefit of the doubt for only so long.

In the case of Calandra, for instance, observers did initially wonder whether he might not simply be out of his depth.

But at some point the answer ceased to matter, for no government minimally respectful of Parliament would have allowed its affairs to be conducted in such a farcical manner. The same will soon be true of Monsef's disingenuous handling of the electoral reform file.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

If we're really going to legalize pot, we need to own up to a few things

Dear pot smokers: Please don't f---k this up.

We are on the verge of legalization. This is a pivotal moment in our country. And some of you — actually statistically about half of you — are ruining it. In a recent survey, conducted by State Farm, 44 per cent of marijuana users said they don't think the drug impacts their ability to drive a car.

Come on, you'd have to be high to believe that. I'm a little sad to have to spell this out for you, but if pot didn't have an effect on your brain, you wouldn't use it. It might be green and fuzzy like a muppet, but it's a drug. Please treat it like one.

At least agree that limits to THC levels, as with blood alcohol, are good. Perhaps you need evidence: While much more research needs to be done on marijuana and its impact on the body (and undoubtedly will be, once pot is legalized), a 2009 meta-analysis from Yale and a 2015 study from the National Institute on Drug Abuse in the U.S. both showed that being stoned makes you a worse driver. If that surprises you, please re-read from the beginning. Maybe you got distracted by a flea.

The whole saviour complex some of you have with weed really needs to stop. You can't advocate for its

medical effectiveness on one hand, and its lack of bodily effects on the other. You know the cliché that stoners are dumb? Please don't give it statistical grounding. For example, don't say, as 20 per cent of you did in the survey, that you will never stop driving high.

Also — please consider a different spokesperson than can usually be found at a 420 rally: the middle-class rasta wannabe college white guy with a phallic joint the size of a banana.

That guy is not the reason this country needs to legalize pot. His individual desire to get baked pales in comparison to our country's need to save the estimated \$1.2 billion we spend every year enforcing marijuana-possession laws. Or our need to avoid tens of thousands of arrests, and the impact they have most especially on people who can't afford a slick lawyer and those racially targeted by police. Nevermind how unimportant rasta-dude's carefree toking is compared to someone's search for relief from chronic pain.

You know that feeling when you're out of rollies? That's how I feel right now. Disappointed. Pot legislation is only a year away. I should be feeling good. Please stop crushing my vibe.

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Conservationists are worried Finding Dory will spike consumer demand for pet clownfish. It happened after the popularity of Finding Nemo and today more than 1 million clownfish are taken from their reefs for home aquariums.

Metro's WILDERNESS SURVIVAL GUIDE

The Victoria Day long weekend is the unofficial kickoff to summer and a tempting time to venture out on excursions. But what if things don't go as planned?

LIZ BROWN/METRO

The wilderness is, well, wild. And given the chance, it will try very hard to kill you. It's an easy thing to forget as you pack for an outdoor adventure surrounded by the comforts of civilization.

Metro spoke to Nick Buck, head instructor of the British Columbia-based survival school Survival In Canada who shared a few simple tips for what to do when your wilderness adventure travels up—t creek.



SHARE YOUR PLANS

Let people know about your trip. "You can't get lost if people know where you are," says Buck. Write down the details and give them to friends or family members. Include when you're leaving, where you're going, your planned routes and when you expect to be back. Let these people know you'll call them when you return and if you don't call them, they're to call you. "If a rescue party does need to go out and search for you at least they'll know where to look," says Buck.



YOU'RE LOST

Stop and stay calm. "You're probably not as lost as you think you are," says Buck. Mark the spot where you're standing with ribbon and then wander around the local area looking for the trail you've lost while continuously keeping the ribbon in sight. If you can't find the trail or figure out where you're supposed to be going, you'll need to hunker down and wait for someone to find you. "The good news is 90 per cent of survival situations are resolved within 72 hours," he says.



YOU'RE HYPOTHERMIC

According to Buck, the biggest risk people face in a survival situation is hypothermia. "Your body operates in a narrow temperature band and if it's out of that band for about three hours then you're in trouble," he says. If you're wet, change into dry clothes and focus on starting a fire.



YOU NEED SHELTER

A shelter from the wind and rain is crucial for preventing hypothermia as well. It doesn't need to be fancy. Tie paracord between two trees and hang a clear plastic drop sheet over the top about one metre away from your fire to create a makeshift tent. Buck recommends clear plastic because it captures the heat from the fire and creates a 'microclimate.' "I've stayed in a shelter like this overnight in -27 degrees Celsius," he says.

THE FIVE Cs OF SURVIVAL

(DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT THEM)



1 Cutting device: A pocket knife

2 Combustion device: Buck recommends bringing and learning to use a ferro rod (a man-made metallic rod that produces sparks when scraped across a rough surface) and packing cotton pads and petroleum jelly. "You make a sandwich out of two cotton pads and a blob of petroleum jelly and light one spark on it and it'll burn for 10-15 minutes," he says. This gives you time to get wood burning.

3 Cordage: Paracord can be purchased at any outdoor supply store and makes building a shelter easy. Learning to tie a few knots can come in handy, too.

4 Container: A metal (not plastic) canteen for carrying and boiling water.

5 Cover: A clear plastic drop sheet for building a shelter. Buck also recommends bringing a couple of garbage bags that can be stuffed with leaves to create a makeshift mattress to prevent the loss of body heat from lying directly on the cold ground.

OTHER MUST-HAVE EMERGENCY ITEMS:

- A water filter like a Life Straw or water purification tablets
- A change of dry clothes, stored in a dry bag or freezer bag
- Ribbon to mark the trail in case you get lost



YOU NEED WATER

Boiling water will kill all biological pathogens, so you need to carry a metal canteen that can be heated. Carrying chlorine tablets or a portable water filter like a Life Straw is also a good idea. "You can survive about three days before you die of dehydration," says Buck.



YOU NEED FOOD

"Food is your last concern," says Buck, adding humans can survive an average of three weeks in the wild without food. "And forget the Rambo bulls—t, you're not going to be hunting and skinning wild animals to cook on a stick," he says. Pack an emergency stash of high energy foods like trail mix and protein bars. Buck also recommends learning to identify the "three plants that will mess you up" and the three plants you can eat in the area where you will be travelling.

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Feminist icon Lindy West refused to give in to the social media trolls. COURTESY JENNY JIMENEZ

Account that can't simply be deleted

INTERVIEW

Lindy West is ready to leave Twitter after facing her past

Sue Carter
 For Metro Canada



When Lindy West was young, there were few signs that she would grow up to become a vocal feminist icon, online warrior and activist for the fat-acceptance movement.

That's one of the few surprises in her debut book, *Shrill: Notes from a Loud Woman*, in which West describes how she evolved from a clinically shy "terror-stricken mouse person" who peed her pants in Grade One out of fear of asking to go to the washroom, to an "unflappable human vuvuzela."

Written with West's signature wry comedic style, *Shrill* is both a heartfelt memoir and a passionate manifesto, revealing much more of her emotional life and, by extension, her vulnerability than she ever could — or wanted to — in a newspaper column, blog post or tweet.

"I've written really personal things, but never quite this personal. Writing a memoir really gives you permission to dig into the viscera of your own life," West says. "There's not necessarily a place to do that in political and pop-culture writing. So okay, I'm going to analyze and tackle myself."

As her own subject, the Portland writer had to research her life, reliving some painful

times, including the death of her beloved father.

When West found her childhood diary, it took her about four months just to crack it open.

"I didn't want to confront those feelings," she says. "I didn't want to discover that I was wrong about the way I remember things because that's a weird, disorienting feeling. But you have to fact-check your life."

Equally as painful are the book's descriptions of the vitriol she experiences as a Twitter celebrity. West's success has risen with online culture, from her time as a columnist at feminist website Jezebel back to her early days as a film critic for the Seattle alternative newspaper *The Stranger*, working under famed editor Dan Savage.

A chapter in the book details a challenging time in their relationship during which West called him out for his views on fat women (Savage has since come around and now consults West and others on being sensitive toward the topic before writing.)

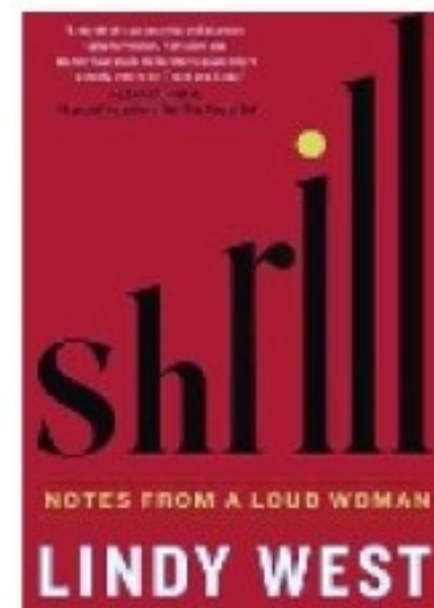
To say that West has a complicated relationship with the internet is a giant understatement.

Her views on topics like mis-



I'm curious to know what it would feel like to not have a constant drip of toxicity into my arm 24/7

Lindy West, on Twitter



ogyny in stand-up comedy and abortion have made her a constant target for trolls who attack her with gleeful violence. But *Shrill* makes clear that despite their efforts and the effect it's had on her life, West has landed on top. Which is perhaps why she is contemplating giving up Twitter and more than 68,000 followers.

"I'm really ready to be done. I didn't want to quit at the height of being trolled and harassed because that's what they want. But I don't know that it adds much to my life anymore," says West. "I don't think that's good for me or my career anymore, and I'm curious to know what it would feel like to not have a constant drip of toxicity into my arm 24/7."

Even if West disappears from social media, don't expect she'll give up the fight, or writing.

"I have lots and lots of choices and no plans," she says. "It's a fun place to be. The future is all opportunity."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.



MEET THE CONDO



SIGNATURE CONDOMINIUMS

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

The eight- and 12-storey Signature Condominium buildings are a grand, concrete and steel project, but with soft, luxurious touches — an outdoor terrace, cabanas, water feature and soon-to-come grand lobby. On the inside, luxury and variety continue with several layouts and fine touches to please all sorts of buyers. Put it all in the city's most dynamic and growing area, and you've got Signature Condos.

Housing amenities

The two lake-backing Signature Condo towers offer private, two-car garages, nine-foot ceilings and gas barbecues on the balcony. Inside, luxurious touches include granite counters, porcelain tile, stainless steel appliances and in-suite laundry. Buyers will also appreciate engineered hardwood floors and custom four-inch baseboards.

Location and transit

The new community of Ambleside is part of bustling Windermere in South Edmonton, and The Signature offers residents easy access to downtown school or work via public transit (accessed at nearby Currents of Windermere) or commuting via the Anthony Henday and Hwy 2. In these parts, it's city life meets serene suburbia.

In the neighbourhood

The Currents of Windermere is just moments from Ambleside, offering banking, dining, shopping and services — even Edmonton's first VIP Movie Cinema. While all the city amenities are nearby, so too are the natural ones: walking paths, the river valley and the River Ridge golf course, just minutes from the condo's front door.

LUCY HAINES/FOR METRO

+ NEED TO KNOW

What: Signature Condominiums
Developer: Westrich Pacific Corp.
Location: Ambleside in Windermere, South Edmonton
Building: One and two-bedroom units in an eight-storey tower and 12-storey tower
Sizes: 725 square feet to 2,587 square feet

Pricing: \$249,000 to \$699,000
Status: 94 per cent sold; lake-facing units are still available
Occupancy: All sold units are now occupied
Sales Centre: 5151 Windermere Blvd.
Phone: 780-803-0888
Website: signatureambleside.com

DESIGN

When moving in together, couples learn to compromise

For couples setting up a new home together, it's a challenge: how to merge two sets of stuff and two decorating styles into one space they both can love.

"Emotions get really high when it comes to your belongings if the person you're choosing to spend the rest of your life with doesn't love what you love," says stylist Marianne Canada, host of the HGTV *Clutterbusting* web series.

In our increasingly design-savvy world, many people come to coupledom with a clear idea of how their home should look.

Even when couples try to accommodate conflicting tastes, they run into the space issue.

"Most of us just don't have room for two full households together," Canada says. "You have to make some choices."

Here, Canada and two other interior designers — California-based Betsy Burnham and Florida-based Laura Burleson — offer advice on mixing, matching and peacefully negotiating a merger of two homes.

Claim your favourites

Each person probably has a

few treasured pieces of furniture or art that they can't imagine living without. Burnham suggests that partners agree to each keep perhaps three or four of these pieces in their shared home. If one partner truly dislikes one of the other's absolute favourites, consider changing the piece a little through painting or reupholstering.

Go with the contrast

Once those favourite pieces are chosen, Burnham suggests creating a clean slate by paint-

ing the walls a crisp white or a white shade with just a hint of colour. Then look at all the remaining furniture against this new backdrop as though you were shopping. Rather than trying to group items that are similar, experiment with pairing those that contrast. All three designers say contrast can be the best part of decor. Couples merging two households "have such a leg up, design-wise," says Burleson, because they can creatively mix and layer a wide range of decor into one stylish space.

Try new locations

As you assess your remaining furniture and accessories, consider placing things in rooms where they've never been. "You don't have to make that big leather recliner work in your traditional living room," Canada says, even if that's where it's always been. What about using it in your bedroom for late-night reading? Small dressers can serve as end tables or sideboards, while end tables can be used as bedside tables. Living room seating can make a guest room cozier, while a

kitchen table can add extra dining space to a family room.

Shop together

Buying a few new pieces can tie together a couple's shared decor and help both partners feel at home. "Maybe they go shopping," Burnham says, "and they find some great vintage rugs that neither one of them knew they loved." This includes accessories and artwork: Canada suggests buying one powerful piece of art to be a focal point in your newly shared space. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Build the green home of your dreams

Your home is not just a house — it reflects the way you choose to live.

Today, many people are choosing to make as little environmental impact as possible, says Les Wold, a managing partner of Effect Home Builders, a home builder based in Edmonton that designs and builds custom green homes.

Effect Home Builders is Built-Green and R2000-certified. The company has also partnered with well-known home expert Mike Holmes to become a Holmes-Approved Builder.

"Our customers are looking for refined homes that are forward-thinking and provide extra value," says Wold.

Effect is working to educate home owners about the advantages of building sustainably, both environmentally and economically.

For every step of a project, the builder will work with you to plan and execute your vision with a custom home tailored to your



CONTRIBUTED

needs, style and budget.

The company also offers renovation services for homeowners looking to reduce the carbon footprint of their current homes.

The eco-friendly homes that result use smart building practices and materials that take every detail into account, using water efficiently, harnessing the heating power of sunlight, and insulating your home to keep the heat in and your heating bill down.

"We use only the highest quality materials and craftsmanship, ensuring your home is a permanent investment," says Wold.

For more information, visit effecthomes.ca.

Japanese treasures add unique beauty to your home's decor

In Japan, art isn't just in galleries — you can find it in everyday Japanese homes.

"Japanese products are very functional, but when you are not using the product, it can become a home decoration," says Lily Lai, owner of Kifune Japan, an Edmonton-based store that specializes in importing unique, handmade goods from Japan.

The company's products include stationery, household supplies, fabric, tableware, witty gadgets and gifts. More than 97 per cent of it is made in Japan.

Some pieces come from companies with more than a century of history, who take pride in maintaining their traditional craftsmanship. Some of the suppliers Kifune Japan works with don't sell anywhere else outside their home province in Japan — that's one of the things that makes products at Kifune Japan special.

The shop carries dishes, plates and bowls all handmade near Nagoya, in an area famous for its pottery.

The Japanese tea towels at Kifune Japan are handmade and dyed traditionally, by applying only one colour at a time. They're equally beautiful when they're used to dry dishes, or when they're hung on the wall.



CONTRIBUTED

The buyers at Kifune Japan regularly visit Japan to nurture their relationships with suppliers and find beautiful, new products to bring to the Edmonton location.

"Kifune Japan provides a very special place for you to come if you're looking to personalize your home," says Lai.

To learn more, visit kifune-edmonton.com.

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K I - F U - N E
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Michael Bisping has stepped in for the injured Chris Weidman to challenge Luke Rockhold for the middleweight championship at UFC 199

Power play making the difference for San Jose

NHL PLAYOFFS

Striking with man advantage has been key to Sharks' success

When Peter DeBoer took over as coach in San Jose one of the first tasks he wanted to complete was making sure the Sharks were more than just a power-play team.

Improved depth and 5-on-5 play helped get San Jose back to the post-season after missing it a year ago, but come playoff time that power play has served as an impressive weapon and a barometer for the team's success.

One game after getting shut out on the man advantage, the Sharks struck twice following St. Louis penalties in a 4-0 win Tuesday night that tied the series at one game apiece heading into Game 3 on Thursday in San Jose.

"It creates momentum for us," DeBoer said Wednesday. "I think that's what you're looking to do with your special teams both ways, is create momentum. I think when our power play scores, that creates momentum. I think when we kill penalties

like we did last night, like that four-minute penalty, I think that creates momentum the other way for us. That's what you're looking to do as a coach, is get momentum out of your special teams. I think that does that for us."

The Sharks lead the NHL with 15 power-play goals this post-season and their 30 per cent success rate is tops among all teams that have played more than one round. San Jose is 13-for-32 on the power play in nine playoff wins, compared to 2-for-18 in its five losses.

With a five-man top unit that has years of experience together, San Jose is a finely tuned unit. Joe Thornton is the playmaker, spending most of his time along the half-boards or behind the net.

“

We got five guys that can hurt you ... it's really hard to defend.

Joe Thornton

Pavelski led the team with 12 power-play goals in the regular season, with many coming on deflections in front of the net or rebounds. Logan Couture and Patrick Marleau bring versatility with the ability to create plays for teammates or score on big shots of their own.

He has plenty of options.

Brent Burns scored both power-play goals in Game 2 off one-timers that St. Louis goalie Brian Elliott had little chance to save. Captain Joe



The Sharks celebrate one of two power-play goals scored by Brent Burns in Game 2 on Tuesday night. GETTY IMAGES

"Our power play's pretty free-flowing," Thornton said. "Really just can't key on one guy. We got five guys that can hurt you. I think for us it's just the way you move around, it's really hard to defend."

The Blues managed to neutralize the Sharks in Game 1 when they killed all three power plays in a 2-1 victory. They were

short-handed five times in Game 2, including a slash behind the play by Troy Brouwer that led to the Sharks' second goal of the game and an interference call on Steve Ott for hitting Pavelski from behind when the puck was not in the area.

The other big difference in Game 2 was that the Blues failed to take advantage of their

power-play chances. After getting a man-advantage goal from captain David Backes to open the scoring in Game 1, St. Louis went 0-for-6 on the power play Tuesday night, including a weak four-minute chance early in the third period when Marleau was called for a high-sticking penalty and the Sharks lead was only 2-0.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS

Penguins edge the Bolts in Game 3

Sidney Crosby, Phil Kessel and Chris Kunitz scored third-period goals, helping the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Tampa Bay Lightning 4-2 in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference final Wednesday night.

Carl Hagelin snapped a scoreless tie late in the second period and Matt Murray had 26 saves for the Penguins, who took a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series. Game 4 is Friday night at Amalie Arena.

Crosby's power-play goal restored a two-goal lead midway through the final period. Kunitz also beat goalie Andrei Vasilevski from the right circle to make it 4-1.

Tyler Johnson and Ondrej Palat scored for the Lightning. They have lost two straight after winning the series opener in Pittsburgh. The defending Eastern Conference champions were outshot 48-28, including 38-16 over the last two periods.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GAME 3 In Tampa, Fla.



Haydn Fleury, right, and the Red Deer Rebels will look to buck a trend and lift the Memorial Cup as the host city. GETTY IMAGES

MEMORIAL CUP

Host Rebels hope rust won't be a factor

The Red Deer Rebels exited the Western Hockey League playoffs on a Friday night in late April, and on Monday morning, coach Brent Sutter ordered his players back to the gym.

There was no time to dwell on the disappointment of a third-round elimination at the hands of the Brandon Wheat Kings, the eventual league champions. The Rebels still had another chance at post-season glory in the Memorial Cup, a tournament they were hosting in less than a month.

"There was disappointment,

ROUND ROBIN

The Rebels will open the tournament Friday against London while Rouyn-Noranda and Brandon will play their first game Saturday.

but we hit the reset button and prepared for the next challenge," Sutter said in a recent interview.

While Brandon was playing in the league final, the Rebels' past three weeks have consisted

of off-ice workouts, team practices and trying to simulate as much game action as possible.

The four-team tournament brings together the champions from the Ontario Hockey League, Quebec Major Junior Hockey League and Western Hockey League, along with a host city, to battle for a national crown will include the London Knights, Rouyn-Noranda Huskies, Brandon Wheat Kings and the Rebels.

Rarely is a host team successful at the Memorial Cup, especially if they've been waiting for

the tournament to begin.

Seven of the last eight champions have also won their league titles, with the 2012 host Shawinigan Cataractes being the only club to lift the trophy after bowing out in their league playoffs.

Red Deer finished the WHL regular season sixth overall and made the Eastern Conference final while Brandon is No. 7 in the CHL rankings. No. 1 Rouyn-Noranda is making its Memorial Cup debut while London is back for a fourth time in five years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Rays cap sweep of struggling Blue Jays

The Tampa Bay Rays belted three home runs off Toronto starter R.A. Dickey in a 6-3 victory Wednesday night that extended the Blue Jays' losing skid to a season-high five games.

Logan Morrison and Desmond Jennings hit back-to-back homers in the fourth inning and Kevin Kiermaier added a two-run shot in the sixth as the Rays swept the three-game series at Rogers Centre.

Tampa Bay (19-19) returned to the .500 mark with the win. Toronto (19-23) was outscored 30-7 in the series and has now dropped five straight home games.

Morrison had three hits and scored twice while Evan Longoria chipped in with a pair of hits. Tampa Bay out-hit Toronto 10-4.

Jimmy Paredes, who played third base for Toronto with Josh Donaldson getting a rest day, opened the scoring in the second inning with a solo shot off Rays starter Jake Odorizzi (1-2). It was his first homer of the year.

Toronto's other runs also came on solo homers. Michael Saunders belted his sixth bomb of the season in the fifth inning, while Edwin Encarnacion

COMEBACK

Travis progressing in rehab

Blue Jays second baseman Devon Travis will join the triple-A Buffalo Bisons on Thursday, the



Devon Travis
GETTY IMAGES

latest sign of progress in his injury rehab assignment. Travis began his rehab assignment Friday and played four games with

single-A Dunedin. Prior to that, he had been at extended spring training while recovering from off-season left shoulder surgery.

increased his home run total to eight on the year in the eighth inning.

Dickey (2-5) worked six innings and gave up eight hits, four earned runs and a walk. He had six strikeouts.

Alex Colome worked the ninth and picked up his 10th save. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Sevilla captures third consecutive Europa title

Sevilla stunned Liverpool with a 3-1 comeback win to take a record third straight Europa League title on Wednesday.

Swept aside in the first half yet trailing only 1-0, Sevilla equalized 18 seconds after the restart with Kevin Gameiro's goal from close range and Coke striking twice in the 64th and 70th minutes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IOC president: Russia could face range of sanctions

The latest allegations of state-sponsored doping in Russia could lead to suspension of entire national federations, heavy fines and lifetime Olympic bans, IOC president Thomas Bach said Wednesday. Bach declined to say whether the IOC would consider banning Russia entirely from this year's Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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2	8	1	7	3	6	4	9	5
4	3	5	2	9	8	6	7	1
9	7	6	4	1	5	2	8	3
6	1	4	9	5	2	8	3	7
3	9	8	6	7	1	5	4	2
5	2	7	3	8	4	1	6	9
7	4	2	5	6	3	9	1	8
8	5	3	1	4	9	7	2	6
1	6	9	8	2	7	3	5	4

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The Cavaliers held Raptors DeMar DeRozan, left, and Kyle Lowry to zero free throws on Tuesday. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

GM Ujiri relying on squad's resiliency

RAPTORS CLEVELAND LEADS 1-0

Cavaliers had their way with Dinos to begin East final

The Toronto Raptors have been here so many times, it's almost become their comfort zone.

The day after being throttled by Cleveland in the opener of their first-ever Eastern Conference final, the Raptors find themselves having to claw back from behind, and hope that recent history means something.

The Raptors dropped a horrific 115-84 decision to the Cavaliers on Tuesday night. But they've lost every Game 1 of this post-season, and are 6-0 in games after losses.

"I see these guys, I see it in their eyes, and we're a very resilient team and we always come back strong," general manager Masai Ujiri said. "If I asked everybody here if they knew the Miami game, Game

7, was going to be a blowout, everybody would say no. And it was a blowout. There are going to be blowout games, and in the playoffs, every single game is different.

"We just have a resilient team. These guys fight, they're going to have ups and downs, and I think they've fought through some down times in the playoffs and this year. They respond well."

Things couldn't go much worse than they did Tuesday at Quicken Loans Arena. One telling statistic: the Cavaliers held Toronto's all-stars Kyle Lowry and DeMar DeRozan to zero free throw attempts between them. In the 298 games that Lowry and DeRozan have played together, that had never happened.

"That's a phenomenal number," coach Dwane Casey said. "I'm not very good at math, but that's almost mathematically impossible as much as we drive and kick."

Lowry had been so solid against the Cavaliers in their three regular-season games, averaging 31 points on 66 per cent shooting. But the scrappy point guard was held to just eight points Tuesday night.

Asked about that spark in the eye that Ujiri spoke of: "There's always a fire if you get your ass kicked like that."

"You gotta want to win," said Lowry, wearing a backwards Maple Leafs ball cap.

"We didn't just get here to

be like 'OK.' We want to win games. We want to compete. Our competitive nature as professionals, as NBA players is going to be at a high level."

DeMarre Carroll had arguably the toughest job of the night Tuesday in trying to contain LeBron James. The four-time NBA MVP blew by Carroll a few times, including

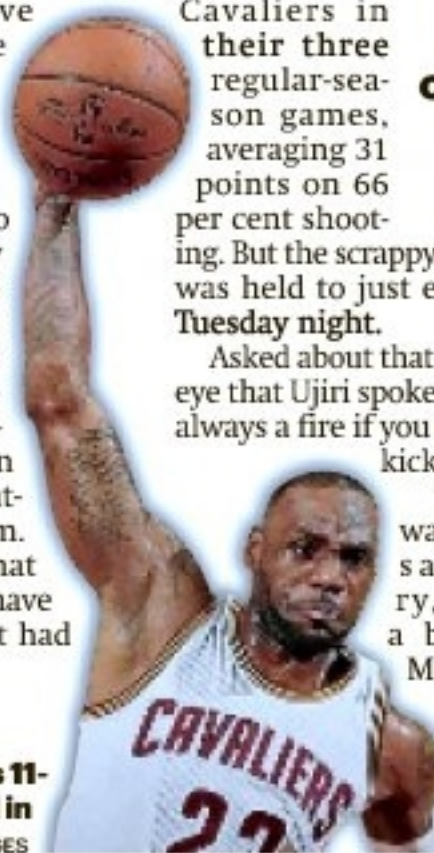
ing on windmill dunk in the second quarter that was played over and over on Wednesday's highlight reels.

"He's a physical beast," Carroll said of James. "It's one of those things man, you've just gotta do what you can. I feel like I can do better, especially staying in front of him, try to make tough twos, but I see now that they tried to go straight to the post."

Following Thursday's Game 2, the series moves to Toronto for Game 3 on Saturday and Game 4 on Sunday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LeBron James was 11-for-13 from the field in Game 1. GETTY IMAGES



RECIPE **Lemon Thyme Chicken Salad**



PHOTO: MAYA VISNVEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This summery salad is bountiful enough to satisfy the meat and potato lovers at your table.

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- Juice of 1 large lemon
- Zest of 1/2 lemon
- 1 Tbsp of fresh chopped thyme
- 3 chicken breasts
- 6 cups sliced mixed greens
- 2 cups small potatoes, halved, boiled and tossed with oil and salt
- 4 soft boiled eggs, cut in half
- 1 cup thinly sliced carrot
- 1 cup halved cherry tomatoes
- 1 cup diced cucumber
- 1/2 cup shaved Asiago or Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 cup diced green onion
- 1/2 tsp fresh chopped thyme

Directions

1. In a bowl, combine oil, lemon juice, zest and thyme. Pour into plastic bag. Add chicken to bag, seal and refrigerate for at least 15 minutes.
2. Arrange greens on a serving dish. Place potatoes, eggs, carrot, cherry tomatoes, cucumber and cheese in groups on top.
3. Heat grill to medium-high. Remove chicken and place and grill coated with cooking spray; grill 10 minutes or until browned. Turn chicken over; grill 15 minutes or until meat is done. Remove and let stand 10 minutes. Slice chicken into strips and place on top of salad.
4. Sprinkle the entire salad with green onions and fresh thyme. Serve with your favourite salad dressing.

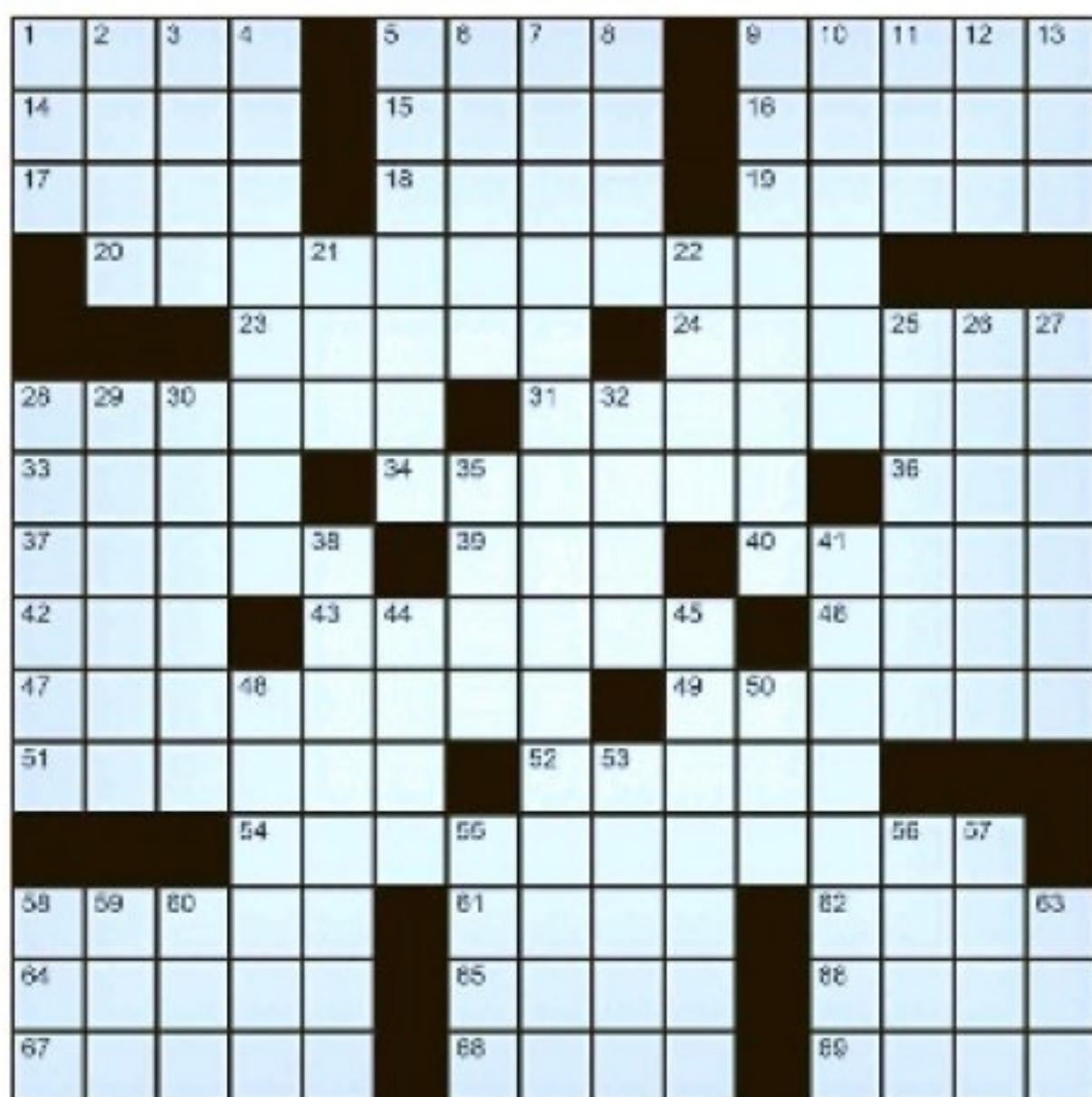
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Poison rocker Mr. Michaels
5. "Feel My Face" by The Weeknd
9. "Time in a Bottle" singer Jim
14. "___ & Stitch" (2002)
15. Pulitzer-winning writer James
16. Summer months in France
17. Marc ___ (Fashion designer)
18. 1899 to 1902 conflict, Second ___ War
19. Hog
20. One of the five "Mother Sauces" of the culinary arts
23. Green hue
24. Creator of big screen monster Godzilla, Tomoyuki ___ (b.1910 - d.1997)
28. Wipe out
31. Lifts
33. Organic compound
34. Intense injury
36. She's opposite
37. Business days, acronymically
39. Passed in 1867, it made Canada [acronym]
40. Glistened
42. J.R.R. Tolkien creature
43. Out of commission because of an ailment: 2 wds.
46. "Mister Ed" actor Leon
47. Turkey's geographical locale: 2 wds.
49. Taking a prescription: 2 wds.



51. Model/actress Ms. Ebanks
52. Tourist's accommodation
54. Ontario: Musical now playing at the Stratford Festival: 3 wds.
58. Archie Bunker's wife
61. Canadian actress Fiona
62. Ho-hum
64. Bristly hairs
65. The Naked ___ (Goya painting)
66. Stick in one's ___ (Rankle)
67. "___" Us (Chain store)
68. Red-covered

69. Pull along
- cheese
- accessory: 2 wds.
5. Broadway musical-turned-movie-of-1972
6. Torment
7. ___-___ (Name of the grass emblem of Saskatchewan)
8. Prefix meaning "Trillion"

- DOWN
1. Wheat: French
2. In the money
3. Town in British Columbia's 'South Country'
4. Home contractor's

9. Starch-extracted roots for tapioca
10. Ivanhoe's beloved
11. Not 'non'
12. Type of package [abbr.]
13. 'Legal' suffix (Lawyer-speak)
21. Permit
22. Thingy
25. Relaxed/comfortable: 2 wds.
26. Lamented
27. Evaluate
28. Devils
29. Main course
30. Like 'light' food
32. Lei-wearer's feast
35. Baseball stats.
38. The Bounty mutineer, ___ Christian
41. As per #54-Across... Music: Marvin ___ Lyrics: Edward Kleban
44. "Sooo soothing!" (Spa massage reaction)
45. WWII: Conference site in 1945 for The Big Three
48. Lariats
50. First word in Inferno by Dante
53. Mystifying game board
55. Elm: French
56. Ms. Ephron of screenplays
57. Biblical twin of Jacob's
58. "C"___ la vie!"
59. God willing, ___ volente
60. 'Acid' suffix
63. Graduation bird

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Today your focus is on shared property and the wealth of others. Don't be envious, because it's just a waste of energy. Be glad you have what you have.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will have to go more than halfway when dealing with others today, because the Moon is opposite your sign. This happens for two days every month. No biggie.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Your involvement with a pet might be particularly important today. You feel concerned. It will please you to do something so that you feel better organized.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is a playful, fun-loving day. You might want to play hooky or take a long lunch. Sports events, social occasions and romantic excursions will appeal. Ooo la la.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You need to cocoon at home or focus energy on your private life. Use this day to take a breather and pamper yourself among familiar surroundings.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You have a need to relate to others today. This is why you want genuine, heart-to-heart discussions with people, not superficial chitchat about the weather.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Money and cash flow are a concern today. You don't like to discuss your finances with others, but you certainly think a lot about them. And today is one of those days.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Today the Moon is in Scorpio, which makes you a bit more emotional than usual. This happens for two days every month. Just chill.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
If you can sneak away and get some time alone today, this will please you. You need a moment to pull your act together before you take it on the road.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
A conversation with a female friend could be significant today. You might discuss goals, future dreams or how to move forward with organizational plans.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You feel restless and eager for something different today. Therefore, indulge this need. Go someplace you've never been before. Explore your world. Shake it up a little.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Stay on top of banking, debt, taxes and all that red-tape stuff. Information is power, especially when it comes to your own personal finances. Know what's happening.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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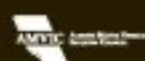
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